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4. — *A Month in England.* By H. T. TUCKERMAN. New York: Redfield. 1853. 24mo. pp. 243.

WHY do not the narratives of foreign travel absolutely pall upon the public taste, especially when their scene is laid in countries and regions which none who cross the ocean leave unvisited? Is it not that such books have always the fresh charm of an autobiography, and that, while we suppose ourselves simply travelling with the author, we are still more studying his idiosyncrasies? From Mr. Tuckerman's book we have added very little to our previous knowledge of England; but we have gone over old routes with a companion whose intimacy we have learned to cherish and shall love to renew. The work is original in its scope. With the instinct of a man of letters, the writer gravitated mainly towards the birthplaces, dwellings, haunts, or sepulchres of distinguished authors, seeking out with pious reverence the memorials of those whose genius had helped to kindle his own. In his fancy, Intellect still broods with hallowing wing over every spot which she has once consecrated; and these are the only spots which he cares to visit or describe. A more enthusiastic guide to such shrines we could not have, nor yet one of purer tastes or more generous sympathies. In style and manner the book is worthy of its author's distinguished reputation, and is as far above as it is aside from the rank and file of the class of books to which it belongs by virtue of its title.

5. — *Lady Huntington and her Friends.* By MRS. HELEN C. KNIGHT. New York: American Tract Society. 1853. 24mo. pp. 292.

WITH Lady Huntington were intimately associated almost all the men of note, who contributed to the revival of religious faith and piety in England during the last half of the eighteenth century. At the same time her own character presented all the beautiful harmonies, and the still more beautiful contrasts, which could mark a lady of noble birth and aristocratic connections, whose devotion and charity brought her into intimate relations with the poor, the ignorant, the fanatical, made her an itinerant evangelist, and reduced her to the most rigid personal self-denial in behalf of the great ecclesiastical interests to which her fortune was pledged. This book combines with her biography lifelike

sketches of Watts, Doddridge, Whitefield, the Wesleys, Romaine, Bertridge, Rowland Hill, and other men of kindred spirit; and comprises a succinct narrative of the rise and early progress of Methodism in the land of its birth. It is equally adapted to the purpose of historical study, and of religious edification; and we are rejoiced that it is issued under auspices which must give it the currency it merits.

6. — *The Remote Cause of Epidemic Diseases*. Parts I. and II. London. 1841 and 1853. *The Cause of Blight and Pestilence in the Vegetable Creation*. London. 1846. *The Prevention and Treatment of Disease in the Potato and other Crops*. London. 1847. By JOHN PARKIN, M.D.

THE theory maintained in these essays is, that epidemic diseases in the animal and vegetable creation are produced by volcanic action. In order to show this, the author attempts to demonstrate, first, the connection in time of such epidemics with disturbances of a volcanic nature, and, secondly, their connection in place and in their route of progression with such geological characteristics as indicate probable centres or lines of transmission for volcanic exhalations. It is obvious that the truth or falsity of this theory could not be established by one man or a few men. If it be worthy of investigation, it would demand *cordons* of scientific observers through the length and breadth of every continent. The author has evidently brought to his task adequate learning and argumentative skill; and, *if full reliance may be placed on his induction of particulars*, he has made out a very strong case in the affirmative of his main postulate. His treatises at least deserve respectful heed, and, if not assent, elaborate refutation.

7. — *Poems*, by JAMES T. FIELDS. Boston. 1854. 16mo. pp. 128.

UNAMBITIOUS simplicity and naturalness, rich and playful fancy, kindly sympathies, smooth versification, and harmonious rhythm, make this little volume as truly a gem to the inward sense as it is to the eye.